

CABINET

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

5 July 2010

The meeting commenced at 9.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

The Mayor (Stuart Drummond) - In the Chair

Councillors: Jonathan Brash (Portfolio Holder for Performance Portfolio Holder)
Pamela Hargreaves (Regeneration and Economic Development Portfolio Holder),
Gerard Hall (Adult and Public Health Services Portfolio Holder).
Cath Hill (Children's Services Portfolio Holder),
Peter Jackson (Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder),
Hilary Thompson (Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio Holder),

Officers: Nicola Bailey, Director of Child and Adult Services,
Dave Stubbs, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods,
Andrew Atkin, Assistant Chief Executive,
Joanne Smithson, Head of Performance and Partnerships
Catherine Frank, Local Strategic Partnership Manager
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

15. Apologies for Absence

Robbie Payne (Deputy Mayor) (Finance & Procurement Portfolio Holder).

16. Declarations of interest by members

None.

17. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2010

Confirmed.

18. Local Area Agreement Quarter 4 (2009/10) Summary of Performance *(Head of Performance and Partnerships)*

Type of decision

None – the report was for information only.

Purpose of report

The report set out a summary of performance against the Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets for 2009/10.

Issue(s) for consideration by Cabinet

The Mayor reported that in 2009/10 the LAA included thirty-three outcomes, structured around the eight Community Strategy Themes. The report summarised the performance against designated Improvement Targets, Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) Improvement Targets and Local Priority Targets. Full details of progress on all of the outcomes, indicators and actions is contained in the LAA Delivery and Improvement Plan quarter 4 progress update which is available on the Hartlepool Partnership website or on request from the Partnership Support Team.

The Mayor indicated that Section 4 of the report set out in summary the progress of the LAA in 2009/10 and that Section 5 set out the progress made against the Designated Improvement Targets which were those targets that the authority was monitored against nationally. There were two targets that required intervention and nine that have not been achieved. Full details were provided in appendix 1 to the report for each individual designated indicator.

The Mayor stated that those designated targets that had not been achieved were:

- NI 151 Overall employment rate
- NI 171 New business registration rate
- NI 152 Working age claiming out of work benefits
- NI 153 Working age claiming out of work benefits – worst performing neighbourhoods
- NI 112 Under 18 conceptions
- NI 20 Assault with injury crime rate
- NI10 Visits to museums and galleries
- NI 8 Adult participation in sport and recreation activities
- NI 110 Young people's participation in positive activities

Those designated targets that required intervention were:

- NI 116 Proportion of children in poverty
- NI 130 Social care clients receiving self-directed support.

Subsequent to the preparation of the report, The Mayor reported that the following information had been received since the Quarter 4 report had been prepared:

- NI 123 Stopping smoking (4-week quit rate); Target achieved (rate = 1,807)
- NI 130 Social care clients receiving self-directed support; Target not achieved (rate = 59.2)
- NI 135 Carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information; Target achieved (% = 39.4%)
- NI 38 Drug related (Class A) offending rate; Target on track (rate = 1.01 Q3)
- NI 188 Planning to adapt to climate change; Target not achieved (level = 1)

Section 6 of the report set out the expected outcome of the DCSF targets where results will not be available until the autumn. There are 2 targets that required intervention, these were: -

- NI 93 Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stages 1 and 2.
- NI 94 Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stages 1 and 2.

The Mayor reported that since the Quarter 4 report had been prepared it had been confirmed that the Key Stage 2 tests had been boycotted by Hartlepool primary schools and there would, therefore, be no results received for five of the DCSF targets (NIs 73, 93, 94, 99 & 100).

Section 7 sets out progress against the 101 local priority targets in the LAA. There are two targets that required intervention and eighteen targets that had not been achieved. The local priority targets requiring intervention were: -

- Employment rate (16-24)
- Children who became the subject of a Child Protection plan, or were registered.

The Mayor indicated that overall there are twenty-four indicators that had no value. This was because the data sets were not yet available nationally or the data comes from either the Place Survey or the Hartlepool Household Survey which only take place every two years.

Cabinet Members referred to Outcome 29 "Empower local people to have a greater voice and influence over local decision making and the delivery of services" and expressed concern that only two members of the public attended last week's South Neighbourhood Forum. Targets in this area could not be seen as a priority over other unachieved targets.

Cabinet commented that while the target for NI130 "Social Care Clients receiving self-directed support" had not been achieved, the local target was a very stretching 70% while the national target was only 30%, which had

more than been achieved in Hartlepool. The Director of Child and Adult Services commented that that the target had been set locally before government advice on the target had been received. This advice set a slightly different target group of clients for the receipt of self-directed care. It did make the local target look unachievable, but the achievement of nearly 60% in Hartlepool did put the authority significantly ahead of many other areas in this kind of service delivery.

It was highlighted that while some targets had been missed, some of which had been known for quite some time and were out of the authority's control, there were many very good news stories among those that had been achieved and even amongst those that hadn't. Cabinet Members hoped that key targets, where performance had been below that expected, would be included in the 2010-11 LAA Delivery & Improvement Plan. The Head of Performance and Partnerships commented that performance against all targets was reviewed and used to inform the development of the new plan. Performance Information has also been shared with the Scrutiny Team to inform work programmes for 2010-11.

The Mayor supported the view that there was still much to be praised in some of the targets that had not been achieved. Many of the economic targets had been set just before the country went into recession, so their failure had been anticipated for some time. In relation to Community Safety, the Mayor commented that Hartlepool currently has the lowest levels of recorded crime for a long time. The recession may affect that adversely but following a meeting with the new Police District Commander, the Mayor believed that every effort would be continued into keeping up the fight against crime. While the work on reducing the under 18's conception rate had not achieved its target, the work being undertaken was still seen as national good practice.

Members commented on Outcome 27 "Enrich individual lives, strengthen communities and improve places where people live through enjoyment of leisure, culture and sport" and the fact that the target for visitor attendance at the museum and the Historic Quay by working class people had not been achieved. Cabinet questioned how this had been established. The Director of Child and Adult Services commented that, as stated in the report, the statistical analysis received from the regionally funded consultants undertaking the questionnaires was unreliable nor was there any indication of how large the sample group had been.

Cabinet highlighted its commitment to the local target of tackling child poverty in Hartlepool.

Decision

That the report and comments of Cabinet be noted.

The meeting concluded at 9.15 a.m.

P J DEVLIN
CHIEF SOLICITOR
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